

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims pending

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-10, 12-13, and 16-19.
- After this Response: Claims 1-10, 12-13, 16-19 and 21-24.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: 11, 14-15, and 20.

Amended claims: Claims 1 and 19.

New claims: Claims 21-24.

1. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus for running wire, the apparatus comprising:

a projectile launcher, comprising:

a housing including a biasing member attached to a piston; and

a locking member for retaining the piston in a biased position and

for triggering release of the piston,

a pull string,

a projectile adapted to connect to the pull string;

wherein the piston accelerates upon release and propels [[a]] the pull string attached to [[a]] the projectile toward a target, and[[.]]

wherein the projectile and the pull string are not connected to the projectile launcher upon release of the piston.

2. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pull string is attached to one or more wires.

1 3. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the projectile
2 comprises a deformable sack containing weighted filler material.

3
4 4. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the projectile further
5 comprises at least one fastener.

6
7 5. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the pull string is
8 attached to at least one fastener.

9
10 6. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the housing
11 comprises a tube.

12
13 7. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the tube has an open
14 proximal end and a closed distal end.

15
16 8. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the biasing member
17 comprises a coil spring.

18
19 9. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the coil spring is
20 attached to the housing.

21
22 10. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piston includes a
23 notch for engaging the locking member.

1 11. **(Withdrawn)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piston includes
2 a groove for engaging the locking member.

3
4 12. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piston includes
5 one or more guide pins for moving the piston.

6
7 13. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the one or more
8 guide pins slide within corresponding slots in the housing.

9
10 14. **(Withdrawn)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piston includes
11 a rod for moving the piston.

12
13 15. **(Withdrawn)** The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the rod includes a
14 plunger handle extending from the housing.

15
16 16. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising one or
17 more rails shielding the locking member from accidental triggering.

18
19 17. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locking member
20 comprises a latch.

21
22 18. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the latch comprises
23 a retaining member for engaging the piston.

1 19. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus for running wire, the
2 apparatus comprising:

3 projectile launching means, comprising:

4 biasing means for accelerating a piston; and

5 locking means for retaining the piston in a biased position and for
6 triggering release of the piston; and

7 a pull string;

8 a projectile attached to the pull string;

9 wherein release of the piston propels a ~~the~~ pull string attached to ~~[[a]]~~ the
10 projectile toward a target~~[[.]]~~; and

11 wherein the projectile and the pull string are not connected to any portion
12 of the projectile launching means upon release of the piston.

13
14 20. **(Withdrawn)** A method for running wire, the method comprising:

15 creating a path to a desired target;

16 propelling a pull string attached to a projectile toward the desired target;

17 using the pull string to draw wire to the desired target.

18
19 21. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, the projectile further comprising a
20 locating beacon.

21
22 22 **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, the projectile further comprising a
23 luminescent surface.

1 23. (New) An apparatus, comprising:
2 a housing;
3 a piston, the piston at least partially enclosed within the housing;
4 a coil spring, the coil spring attached to the piston and at least partially
5 enclosed within the housing;
6 a locking device, comprising:
7 a lock; and
8 a trigger, the lock configured to hold the coil spring in a
9 compressed position and the trigger configured to release the coil spring from the
10 compressed position when the trigger is activated; and
11 a wire;
12 a projectile, comprising:
13 a deformable sack;
14 weighted material;
15 a wire attaching mechanism configured to attach the wire to the
16 projectile; and
17 a locating beacon;
18 wherein the projectile is configured to sit within the housing and be
19 propelled upon activation of the trigger, and wherein the projectile and the wire
20 are entirely disconnected from the apparatus upon activation of the trigger and exit
21 from the housing.

22
23 24. (New) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the locating beacon
24 comprises one of: a glowing stick, an audible beacon, a strobing light, or a GPS
25 device.